



Borough of Rawtenstall



ANNUAL REPORT

1972

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

.....

Chairman

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN J. CONNOLLY, J.P.) EX-OFFICIO

Vice-Chairman

COUNCILLOR G. BLAND

ALDERMAN C. BARCROFT

ALDERMAN J. E. BARNES

COUNCILLOR I. BISHOP

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COUNCILLOR G. HOLT

COUNCILLOR J. HOLT

COUNCILLOR A. G. MACKIE

COUNCILLOR MRS. F. MILLS
(Died 9th November 1972)

COUNCILLOR J. PILLING

BOROUGH OF RAWTENSTALL

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

T. S. JONES, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

C. CUNLIFFE, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

L. T. SIMPSON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

A. H. FISHER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., O.N.C.(Building)

A. HALLIWELL, M.A.P.H.I.

Authorised Meat Inspector

J. T. KERSHAW

Clerks

MRS. E. PINCHBECK

MISS M. HARGREAVES

To the Mayor and Members of the Rawtenstall Borough Council:

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1972 on the health of the residents of the town.

The Registrar General's mid-1972 estimate of population was 21,060 which, unfortunately, is 335 persons less than the 1971 Census. If this trend is not halted the township could gradually contract to a position where industry will not have a sufficient pool of labour to call on to make it worthwhile either to expand or come into the area.

The number of live births during the year also decreased slightly and, unfortunately, the infant deaths doubled, although this should not alarm people as there were only 4 infant deaths during the year. Thus, in comparing infant mortality rate for 1972 with 1971 it should be borne in mind that these increases in small numbers make for large fluctuations in death rates. Your attention is drawn to the table on page 8 which gives a much truer picture of the trend both in death rates amongst the population generally and death rates amongst infants, and also the birth rate. Compared with 1900, for example, when infant mortality rate was 153 per thousand, last year's 15 per thousand still reflects great credit on the services.

The other figure which is of note is the continuing nil return of maternal deaths which is most encouraging.

The total number of deaths in 1972 was 363, 28 more than the previous year. Deaths due to Cancer amounted to 66; deaths due to Heart Disease amounted to 140; Cerebro-vascular diseases accounted for 70 deaths; and Respiratory Diseases accounted for 46 deaths. It is still in the field of Cancer and Heart Disease that the greatest number of deaths occur and there are many factors involved in this. Some are due to continued high level of smoking amongst the population; more people are living to an older age and then dying of degenerative conditions, together with many occupations which are of a sedentary nature, thus a high percentage of the population are generally suffering from overweight and lack of exercise.

Although the total number of infectious diseases notified during the year was less than the previous year, your attention is drawn to the fact that more than half of the cases were due to Measles and almost a third were due to Infective Hepatitis. In fact, the figure of 28 cases of Infective Hepatitis was the largest number since the disease became notifiable in 1967. There is no ready explanation as to why this should be but this condition, which is due to a virus, can spread amongst the population without people being aware of it until they develop symptoms, and there is an improved standard of diagnosis.

I still feel concern that we are getting new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and during the year there were 4 cases, three of these amongst the immigrant members of the population. Whether this could be avoided by any immigrant submitting himself or herself for investigation soon after arrival and thus perhaps

anticipate or avoid pulmonary tuberculosis occurring, would depend to a large extent on the willingness of the immigrant to co-operate.

Probably this will be the last written report with which I will be involved since re-organisation of the local government and national health services will overtake us during the early part of next year and thus there will be no opportunity to produce a full annual report for 1973. Time alone will tell whether the new re-organisation affecting both local government and the health services will benefit the community at large. As far as I can see the biggest difficulty will be the continuing relationships between the successors to the Medical Officer of Health and the new local government district. It is to be hoped that the co-operation which has existed for very many years will continue between the health services and the environmental health department of the future.

May I take this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Health and Housing Committee and the Councillors in general for their support and co-operation during my term of office over the past ten years.

I also thank the Staff of the Health Department for their cheerful and unstinted support and help at all times.

Yours sincerely,

T. S. JONES

Medical Officer of Health.

S E C T I O N A .

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

GENERAL SUMMARY

The Registrar General's estimated population figure for mid year 1972 was 21,060, and the 1971 Census population figure was 21,395. The adjusted birth rate was 15.2 per 1,000 of the population compared with the national rate of 14.8. The adjusted death rate was 13.9 per 1,000 of the population compared with the national rate of 12.1.

The infant mortality rate was 15 per 1,000 live births compared with the national rate of 17.

There were four infant deaths but no maternal deaths.

There were seventy-eight cases of infectious diseases notified. The district was apparently completely free from diphtheria and poliomyelitis.

Milk and water supplies (public) gave satisfactory results on sampling, except that organisms causing undulant fever were present in three milk samples involving three farms.

Discretionary and Standard Grants for the improvement of houses were approved in two hundred and thirty-six cases.

STATISTICS

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----------|
| Area in acres | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | ... | 9,528 |
| Number of Inhabited houses - according to the Rate Books | | | | | | | | | | ... | 8,232 |
| Number of Inhabited houses - Census 1931 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | ... | 8,079 |
| Rateable Value | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | ... | £640,879 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | ... | £5,845 |
| Population - Census 1971 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | ... | 21,395 |
| Population - Census 1961 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | ... | 23,869 |
| Population - Census 1951 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | ... | 25,426 |
| Population - Census 1931 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | ... | 28,575 |

BIRTHS

| | | | | | | | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Live Births | (Legitimate | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 112 | 142 | 254 |
| | (Illegitimate | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7 | 12 | 19 |
| | (| | | | | | | | |
| | (Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 119 | 154 | 273 |
| Still Births | (Legitimate | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | (Illegitimate | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 1 | 1 |
| | (| | | | | | | | |
| | (Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 3 | 4 |

DEATHS

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|------|
| Infantile | (Legitimate | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| | (Illegitimate | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | - | - |
| | (| | | | | | | | |
| | (Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Maternal | (Puerperal Sepsis | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | | - | - |
| | (Other Maternal Causes | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | | - | - |
| Neo-natal Mortality - infants under four weeks of age | | | | | | | - | - | - |
| Total number of Deaths from all Causes | | | | | | | 173 | 190 | 363 |
| Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population | | | | | | | .. | .. | 13.0 |
| Adjusted Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population | | | | | | | .. | .. | 15.2 |
| Stillbirths, rate per 1,000 total births | | | | | | | .. | .. | 14 |
| Infantile Mortality, rate per 1,000 total births | | | | | | | .. | .. | 15 |
| Maternal Mortality, rate per 1,000 total births | | | | | | | .. | .. | - |
| Neo-natal Mortality, rate per 1,000 live births | | | | | | | .. | .. | - |
| Perinatal Mortality, rate per 1,000 total births | | | | | | | .. | .. | 14 |
| Early Neo-natal Mortality, rate per 1,000 live births | | | | | | | .. | .. | - |
| Death Rate, per 1,000 Population | | | | | | | .. | .. | 17.2 |
| Adjusted Death Rate, per 1,000 Population | | | | | | | .. | .. | 13.9 |
| Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | | | | | | | .. | .. | - |
| Death Rate from Cancer | | | | | | | .. | .. | 3.13 |

ENGLAND AND WALES

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|----|----|------|
| Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population | | | | | | | .. | .. | 14.8 |
| Death Rate, per 1,000 Population | | | | | | | .. | .. | 12.1 |
| Infantile Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births | | | | | | | .. | .. | 17 |
| Neo-natal Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births | | | | | | | .. | .. | 12 |

| Cause of death | Male | Female | Total |
|---|------|--------|-------|
| Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus | 14 | 2 | 16 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Breast | - | 4 | 4 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus | - | 1 | 1 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate | 3 | - | 3 |
| Other Malignant Neoplasms | 8 | 10 | 18 |
| Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms | - | 1 | 1 |
| Diabetes Mellitus | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Other Endocrine etc. Diseases | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Mental Disorders | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Hypertensive Disease | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Ischaemic Heart Disease | 51 | 52 | 103 |
| Other Forms of Heart Disease | 7 | 19 | 26 |
| Cerebrovascular Disease | 26 | 31 | 57 |
| Other Diseases of Circulatory System | 4 | 9 | 13 |
| Pneumonia | 10 | 12 | 22 |
| Bronchitis and Emphysema | 17 | 7 | 24 |
| Peptic Ulcer | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia | - | 3 | 3 |
| Other Diseases of Digestive System | - | 3 | 3 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate | 1 | - | 1 |
| Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System | - | 1 | 1 |
| Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System | - | 3 | 3 |
| Congenital Anomalies | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| All Other Accidents | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Total all causes | 173 | 190 | 363 |

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH

| Year | Popu- lation | Death Rate per 1,000 | Birth Rate per 1,000 Population | | | Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births | Actual Still Births | Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 Total Births |
|------|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|---------------|--|---------------------------|---|
| | | | Actual | | All Births | | | |
| | | | Leg. | Illeg. | | | | |
| 1972 | 21,060 | 17.2 | 254 | 19 | 13.0 | 15 | 4 | - |
| 1971 | 21,395 | 15.8 | 256 | 27 | 13.3 | 7 | 2 | - |
| 1970 | 21,370 | 16.4 | 245 | 26 | 12.7 | 18 | 4 | - |
| 1969 | 21,640 | 15.9 | 289 | 30 | 14.7 | 9 | 6 | - |
| 1968 | 21,870 | 15.8 | 276 | 30 | 14.0 | 10 | 10 | - |
| 1967 | 22,630 | 15.6 | 285 | 25 | 13.7 | 23 | 5 | 3.17 |
| 1966 | 22,950 | 14.8 | 276 | 20 | 14.2 | 27 | 7 | - |
| 1965 | 23,290 | 15.5 | 315 | 37 | 16.6 | 22 | 9 | - |
| 1964 | 23,510 | 14.1 | 328 | 26 | 16.7 | 28 | 5 | - |
| 1963 | 23,830 | 16.5 | 373 | 24 | 16.7 | 18 | 12 | - |
| 1962 | 23,860 | 15.2 | 368 | 25 | 16.5 | 28 | 4 | - |
| 1961 | 23,910 | 15.6 | 340 | 22 | 15.1 | 8 | 6 | - |
| 1960 | 23,970 | 14.8 | 355 | 19 | 15.6 | 32 | 6 | - |
| 1959 | 24,030 | 17.4 | 306 | 15 | 13.4 | 28 | 7 | - |
| 1958 | 24,230 | 15.7 | 319 | 12 | 13.7 | 18 | 12 | 2.92 |
| 1957 | 24,430 | 17.0 | 317 | 19 | 13.8 | 15 | 6 | - |
| 1956 | 24,650 | 14.4 | 312 | 17 | 13.3 | 15 | 8 | - |
| 1955 | 24,840 | 16.9 | 324 | 10 | 13.4 | 33 | 11 | - |
| 1954 | 24,900 | 16.1 | 329 | 9 | 13.6 | 30 | 4 | 2.92 |
| 1953 | 24,950 | 21.7 | 339 | 13 | 14.1 | 23 | 9 | 2.77 |
| 1952 | 25,140 | 14.0 | 319 | 24 | 13.6 | 32 | 8 | 2.85 |
| 1951 | 25,320 | 16.8 | 322 | 12 | 13.2 | 33 | 11 | - |
| 1950 | 25,350 | 15.5 | 339 | 16 | 14.0 | 37 | 7 | 2.76 |
| 1949 | 25,220 | 15.4 | 368 | 18 | 15.3 | 28 | 3 | - |
| 1948 | 25,140 | 14.2 | 389 | 19 | 16.2 | 48 | 13 | 3.93 |
| 1947 | 24,630 | 15.3 | 486 | 9 | 20.0 | 58 | 11 | 2.38 |
| 1946 | 24,300 | 14.2 | 365 | 23 | 15.9 | 35 | 15 | 7.35 |
| 1945 | 23,000 | 17.3 | 305 | 21 | 14.1 | 55 | 10 | 5.95 |
| 1940 | 26,030 | 14.8 | 274 | 5 | 10.7 | 47 | 12 | - |
| 1935 | 27,940 | 13.3 | 263 | 12 | 9.8 | 50 | 22 | - |
| 1930 | 28,660 | 13.2 | 330 | 13 | 11.9 | 84 | 22 | - |
| 1920 | 28,470 | 13.3 | 559 | 34 | 20.8 | 89 | 9 | 6.91 |
| 1910 | 32,960 | 12.2 | 599 | 26 | 19.0 | 110 | | 9.60 |
| 1900 | 30,934 | 16.7 | 717 | 35 | 24.3 | 153 | | 2.66 |

S E C T I O N B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE

The County Council is responsible for the following local health services which are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme: Ambulance, District Nursing, Midwifery and Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The following matters are the responsibility of the Borough Council: control of infectious diseases, provision of suitable water supplies, control of cleansing and disposal of refuse, inspection of all food and food preparing premises including the inspection of all meat carcasses at private slaughterhouses, sampling of food stuffs (milk, ice cream etc.) for bacteriological examination, sanitary accommodation of houses, factories, shops and other premises, inspection of houses with regard to fitness for human habitation, statutory nuisances, rodent control, offensive trades, smoke abatement and many other matters concerned with environmental health.

Hospital facilities are now under the Regional Board and Management Committees and patients are admitted without regard to local boundaries.

The examination of pathological specimens and milk and water samples is undertaken without charge by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Withington Hospital, West Didsbury, Manchester 20.

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S E C T I O N C.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Measles and Rubella during 1972 is shown by the following table:-

PRIMARY - BY YEAR OF BIRTH

| | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1965 to 1968 | Others under 16 | Total |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Diphtheria | 1 | 129 | 48 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 190 |
| Whooping Cough | 1 | 126 | 47 | 6 | 3 | - | 183 |
| Tetanus | 1 | 129 | 46 | 7 | 9 | 37 | 229 |
| Poliomyelitis | 1 | 128 | 53 | 5 | 7 | - | 194 |
| Measles | - | 67 | 60 | 10 | 25 | 2 | 164 |
| Rubella | - | - | - | - | - | 60 | 60 |

The number of children who were given re-inforcement injections during 1972 is as follows:-

RE-INFORCEMENT - BY YEAR OF BIRTH

| | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1965 to 1968 | Others under 16 | Total |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Diphtheria | - | 2 | 2 | 2 | 212 | 7 | 225 |
| Whooping cough | - | 2 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 2 | 18 |
| Tetanus | - | 2 | 3 | 2 | 213 | 11 | 231 |
| Poliomyelitis | - | 2 | 1 | 2 | 210 | 6 | 221 |

The following table gives the numbers of children vaccinated and re-vaccinated against Smallpox:-

Primary Vaccination

Age in years

Re-Vaccination

Age in years

| Under 2 | 2 - 5 | 5 - 15 | Total under 16 | Under 2 | 2 - 5 | 5 - 15 | Total under 16 |
|---------|-------|--------|-------------------|---------|-------|--------|-------------------|
| 3 | 3 | 10 | 16 | - | - | 5 | 5 |

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CORRECTED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING EACH YEAR FROM 1963 TO 1972

| Disease | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Para=typhoid fever | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| Smallpox | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Scarlet fever | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| Diphtheria | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Enteric fever | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cerebro-spinal fever | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute Polio=encephalitis | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Dysentery | 3 | 1 | 21 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Measles | 222 | 417 | 73 | 387 | 43 | 12 | 71 | 250 | 78 | 48 |
| Whooping Cough | 14 | 21 | 2 | - | 11 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 2 | - |
| Malaria | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Meningococcal Infection | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | 3 | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | 1 | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Infective Hepatitis | - | - | - | - | 9 | 21 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 28 |
| Leptospirosis | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Totals | 242 | 442 | 97 | 390 | 66 | 37 | 83 | 262 | 92 | 78 |

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

The following table shows the results of bacteriological and pathological examinations during the year:

| <u>Details of Examinations</u> | | | | | | | <u>Positive</u> | <u>Negative</u> |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----------------|-----------------|
| Salmonellae | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 | 22 |
| Shigellae | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 22 |

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TUBERCULOSIS

There were four new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year. Enquiries are made in every case about the source of the infection and family and other close contacts of the patient are examined.

At the beginning of the year there were forty-four cases of tuberculosis on the register. Four cases were added, seventeen cases were taken off the register, leaving a total of thirty-one cases on the register at the end of the year. The following table gives an analysis of the cases on the register during the year.

PARTICULARS OF CASES ON REGISTER DURING 1972

| | Pulmonary | | | Non-Pulmonary | | | Total Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary | | |
|---|-----------|----|-------|---------------|----|-------|---|----|-------|
| | M. | F. | Total | M. | F. | Total | M. | F. | Total |
| No. of cases on register at beginning of year | 22 | 14 | 36 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 27 | 17 | 44 |
| No. of cases added to register during the year | 4 | - | 4 | - | - | - | 4 | - | 4 |
| No. of cases removed from register during the year: | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) Died | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| (b) Left district | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| (c) Recovered | 7 | 5 | 12 | 1 | - | 1 | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| (d) Diagnosis not confirmed | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| No. cases remaining on register at the end of year | 17 | 8 | 25 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 20 | 11 | 31 |

The following tables give the age groups of new cases taken on the register and deaths of cases removed from the register during 1972:

| AGE GROUPS | NEW CASES | | | | DEATHS | | | |
|---------------|-----------|---------|---------------|---------|-----------|---------|---------------|---------|
| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | |
| | Males | Females | Males | Females | Males | Females | Males | Females |
| Under 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 - 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 - 9 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10 - 14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 - 19 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20 - 24 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 - 34 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 35 - 44 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 45 - 54 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55 - 64 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Over 65 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1900 - 1972

| | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary | Total |
|------|-----------|---------------|-------|
| 1900 | 56 | 3 | 59 |
| 1910 | 29 | 10 | 39 |
| 1920 | 14 | 7 | 21 |
| 1930 | 11 | 9 | 20 |
| 1940 | 13 | 4 | 17 |
| 1945 | 10 | 4 | 14 |
| 1950 | 8 | - | 8 |
| 1955 | 8 | - | 8 |
| 1956 | - | - | - |
| 1957 | 4 | - | 4 |
| 1958 | 2 | - | 2 |
| 1959 | 3 | - | 3 |
| 1960 | 2 | - | 2 |
| 1961 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 1962 | - | - | - |
| 1963 | 1 | - | 1 |
| 1964 | - | 1 | 1 |
| 1965 | 2 | - | 2 |
| 1966 | 2 | - | 2 |
| 1967 | - | - | - |
| 1968 | 2 | - | 2 |
| 1969 | - | - | - |
| 1970 | 1 | - | 1 |
| 1971 | - | - | - |
| 1972 | - | - | - |

To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee:

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present in conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health my twenty-fifth Annual Report which, coincidentally, will be the last one which it will be possible to submit to this Council. The occasion seemed opportune to review some of the progress made during the Borough's existence. The reading of Annual Reports over the years is a fascinating exercise which reveals the great strides made in environmental health over the whole period. To include even a summarised form of events would make this Annual Report too lengthy. In many ways this is unfortunate because, although they are only historical facts, at this turn in local government history it is most revealing and compelling to realise the vast improvements that have been made despite the appreciable delays in progress occasioned by two world wars.

I would like to record my appreciation of the Council's support during my period of office in being able to make some contribution to these improvements. All old problems are not resolved, new ones are arising and will continue from technological advances, coupled with people's greater interest in their environment. Only time will tell whether the new local government system functions as well, or better, in this very intimate field of public service.

Perhaps a brief 'potted' review of some major improvements may be indulged in, although one cannot be comprehensive in the space appropriate to this report.

1. The main trunk sewerage system was only commenced in 1897 and most houses were served by pails and privies. At the turn of the century less than 2000 of the town's 7000 houses had been connected to the new sewers, and even at the outbreak of the first world war over 700 pails existed and only 1830 fresh water closets were in existence. Unfortunately, in common with many East Lancashire towns, early sanitary conversions resulted in the provision of the obsolescent "tippler" closets, and it was only after 1952 that attractive grants and a drive were made to eliminate this type of accommodation. Nowadays pail closets only exist at farms and outlying cottages too remote for a sewer connection. At the end of the year 875 "tippler" closets still existed, but some 300 are associated with unfit houses.

2. At the turn of the century ash pits abounded as the form of refuse accommodation and their filthy faults are dealt with in gory detail in many annual reports. Their associations with large fly populations and possible source of many infectious diseases are mentioned by several medical officers of health. The 1930s saw the principal conversion to portable dustbins, although over 200 existed at outlying farms and cottages at the end of the second world war. Nowadays none exist.

3. Reports made in the 1890s comment on the unsatisfactory nature of the public water supply, which was not filtered and was subject to serious pollution, and the large numbers of private supplies were the subjects of many reports. The public

water supply was improved by safeguarding gathering grounds, filtration and chlorination. Several cases of typhoid fever occurred before and just after the turn of the century and these were attributed to contaminated water supplies.

The problem of the polluted private water supplies which served over 2000 houses up to 1950 became the subject of much attention. Nowadays there are only 68 outstanding houses within reasonable distance of public water mains and these are not affected by clearance schemes; some 200 houses in isolated areas remote from public mains could very well be the subject of future closer attention.

4. The large housing problems created by the industrial revolution which had resulted in over 3000 unfit back-to-back and other houses in the town, commenced to be tackled after 1925 but did not seriously get under way until the 1930s. During this period some 500 houses were demolished. They were of the old 'slum' type and, apart from their unfitness, serious overcrowding and verminous infestation often occurred. As a general rule these latter two conditions did not arise in the unfit houses dealt with after the second world war. Aftermath of this war did not enable serious progress to begin until 1955 since when a further 1865 houses have been dealt with as unfit, and an outstanding problem of some 300 houses for demolition remains, based on present legal standards of unfitness.

Improvement of housing standards has not solely been effected by demolition. A substantial contribution to the housing stock has also been made by the conversion and improvement of some 315 formerly unfit back-to-back houses, with a further 213 scheduled for improvement.

The payment of grants towards the cost of improvements started in 1950 and has continued at a steady progress, coupled with an increase of owner-occupation. The 1920s saw standards raised by the building of the first Council estate - nowadays the Council owns some 3000 houses.

The Housing Section of the Report sets out clearly the present picture of housing standards in the town. In the future we can hope to see an extension of this work by the creation of more general improvement areas in which not only are houses brought up to modern standards but their external environment is improved. To date three areas have been tackled, one of which solely involved Council houses. I trust early completion of clearance and back-to-back improvement schemes will not be unnecessarily delayed by re-organisation, although I accept that different priorities may have to be approved viewing the new area as a whole.

5. Great strides have been made in improving the purity of the air, particularly since the Clean Air Act 1956. Although odd isolated problems still exist the constant belching of black smoke from industrial chimneys was the subject of the earliest action under the Act, and the old theory "where there's muck there's brass" has long since been disproved. The demolition of high density back-to-back houses, the strong public trend to voluntarily go smokeless by greater use of cleaner, convenient fuels, the gradual development of smoke control areas since 1970, added to the reduction in industrial pollution have greatly improved the purity of the air we breathe. Annual and winter smoke levels measured at the Town Hall are a third

of those applying in 1961 when measurements first began. Sulphur dioxide pollution has also been more than halved by the increasing use of gas and electricity. The gradual extension of smoke control areas to the whole town should improve conditions still further. Over one third of the houses in the town should be the subject of Smoke Control Orders before re-organisation in 1974. The rate of local progress will of course have to be assessed in the light of programming for a new larger area, and an influencing factor will undoubtedly be the priority this subject will receive when allocation of financial resources is considered.

6. Appreciable changes have also taken place in the control of the wholesomeness of food supplies and there is need for still further improvements in the future. Although conditions have improved, I do not consider sufficient attention has been devoted to this broad subject owing to the pressure of other work.

The old reports reveal that over 30 private slaughterhouses existed at one time and even in 1939, before centralised slaughtering took over, some twenty-one private slaughterhouses existed. A proper meat inspection system was impossible over such a wide area, animal tuberculosis was rife, and it must have meant that staff had to rely greatly on the honesty of slaughtermen in notifying much diseased meat.

When private slaughtering resumed in 1954 six slaughterhouses were licensed as complying with new standards, and even now there are four private slaughterhouses complying with still higher standards. 38,000 animals are slaughtered annually and all are subject to the new statutory standard of 100% meat inspection.

Pre the second world war much attention was devoted to raising the standards of dairy farms although this function was transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in 1949. Tuberculosis in dairy cattle has virtually been eliminated, and the intensive sampling of milk for this infection which occurred up to 1958 has since been superseded by attention to the presence of brucellosis which will also be eradicated eventually and systematically by the Ministry.

In the meanwhile sampling is exerting a useful control, whilst nearly 50% of producer retailers have accredited brucellosis free herds. From the sale point of view one has seen the change from the loose undesignated milk from churns to the compulsory bottling of tuberculosis tested or heat treated milk. Milk is undoubtedly a much safer food and will become more so as more herds become brucellosis free.

In post war years increased attention has been given to the inspection of premises where food is prepared or sold, but much more is required. There are still too many complaints of mouldy food or foreign bodies in food. Food display and wrapping has improved in post war years, but the increase in catering calls for more attention being paid to food preparation. I personally feel a food premise licensing system should be brought to operation, certainly commencing with newly opened premises.

Local government re-organisation will no doubt bring many changes with new policies and programmes of work. It will be impossible to resolve everything in logical programmes by April 1974. However, it will be most important for the

public to be able to receive from the outset satisfactory and quick service with the often mundane but important matters which make up the environmental health service.

My customary conclusion to this introductory letter is given this year with particularly sincere and warm feeling. I record my thanks to the Health and Housing Committee for their encouragement and support, and express my appreciation to other Chief Officers and their staff for their wholehearted co-operation. I remain particularly indebted to the conscientious and unstinting service given by a very capable and loyal staff and body of employees many of whom have remained unchanged over the greater part of my service.

I am,
Your obedient servant,

C. CUNLIFFE

Chief Public Health Inspector.

S E C T I O N D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCE

WATER SUPPLY

1. PUBLIC SUPPLY

Since the 1st April 1963 Bolton Corporation has been the statutory water undertaking for the area and serves 8532 houses in the town, all being directly piped. Sixty-seven new houses were connected to the public supply during the year. Extensions of water mains were carried out as follows:

| <u>Existing Property</u> | <u>New Property</u> | <u>Other Development</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 132 metres | 1017 metres | Nil |

Upland surface water reservoirs at Clowbridge, Greenfold and Clough Bottom, all of which are chlorinated and filtered, provide the source for the main public supply. Owing to certain waters being derived from peaty moorlands, there is a liability to plumbo-solvency and the water is lime-treated to overcome this. From the tests made after treatment the water was seen to have no significant plumbo-solvent action. The Undertaking reports that during the year 689 samples of raw water were subjected to bacteriological examination and partial analysis, and 24 were subjected to full chemical analysis. In addition 1,242 samples of filtered and treated water received bacteriological examination and partial chemical analysis, and 32 full chemical analysis. The results showed that the filtered and treated water was of a satisfactory quality.

No special action was required to be taken in respect of any form of contamination. The average natural fluorine content of water supplied to the Rawtenstall area is approximately 0.30 parts per million.

Implementation of the powers contained in Section 96 of the Housing Act 1964 continued to bring a satisfactory response by giving encouragement to owners of property unsatisfactorily served by common water service pipes to provide separate services. The Committee pay the Water Undertaking's cost in connecting an external stop-tap to the water main up to a maximum of £20 including road re-instatement charges. Owners are responsible for their plumbers' cost of work from the external stop-tap into the house. Seventy-three applications for financial assistance were approved during the year giving a total of 766 applications approved during the nine years operation of the scheme.

2. PRIVATE SUPPLIES

The number of houses on private supply is 293. Of these 221 are in isolated areas remote from public mains. There are 68 houses within reasonable reach of public water mains and not affected by clearance schemes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewerage scheme is on the separate system. Extensive alterations to the sewage disposal plant commenced in 1969 have now been completed. The new screening plant is one of the first of its kind to be installed in a sewage treatment works to deal with the problem and generally is operating very successfully.

Sixty-seven new houses have been connected to the sewerage system during the year. One hundred and fifty-eight houses are not on the water carriage system, but the majority of these are outlying farms and cottages not connected by reason of their isolation.

There were one hundred and ninety-nine inspections made in connection with drainage defects, and one hundred and thirty-eight complaints of blocked drains and closets were dealt with by the Department during the year. The employment of a man for the prompt release of blocked drains provides a valuable service, and complaints are normally dealt with within 24 hours of receipt.

The expeditious procedure enabled by the Public Health Act 1961 dealing with blocked and defective drains is delegated to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Similar delegation for streamlining procedure exists in connection with the Public Health Act 1936 in respect of Section 39 (drains, eaves gutters, rainwater pipes, etc.), Section 44 - 45 (defective sanitary conveniences), and Section 93 (nuisances).

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The Rivers Irwell and Limy Water are polluted by industrial premises in the area. Appreciable improvement has taken place in recent years, partly from certain closures of works producing intransigent effluents, and partly by effluents being accepted into the sewerage system both in Rawtenstall and Bacup following modernisation of the sewage disposal plant. Close liaison is maintained with officers of the Mersey and Weaver River Board who are the responsible authority.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Number of privy middens | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| Number of closets attached to these middens | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| Number of pail closets | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 119 |
| Number of dry ashpits (exclusive of middens) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| Number of waste water closets | ... | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 875 |
| Number of fresh water closets | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8,592 |
| Number of portable receptables for refuse | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9,500 |

There still remain 875 waste water closets in the town. Approximately 538 waste water closets are to be found at properties with an expectancy of life of more than 15 years.

Thirty-three conversions were carried out, fifteen under the provisions of Section 47(4) of the Public Health Act 1936, and eighteen by way of discretionary or standard grants.

Another problem which will have to be faced in the future is the method for dealing with disused waste water closets - often in ranges - for which, in the absence of nuisance, there do not appear to be adequate powers.

The Council make a grant of £20 towards the cost of converting waste water closets, and will pay one half of approved costs for pail closet conversions, including, in the remote areas, the provision of a proper septic tank. Since the Council's scheme was instituted in May 1952 applications have been approved for the conversion of fifty-four pail closets and one thousand, five hundred and twenty-two waste water closets. Grants approved total £1,622 in respect of pails and £16,050 in respect of waste water closets, the scheme being financed out of loan.

The outstanding houses served by pails, collected by the department, can be classified as follows overleaf:-

| Category | Class of Property | | Total |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|-------|
| | Reasonable Life | Due for Demolition | |
| 1. Pails within 100 ft. distance of sewer and water supply | - | 2 | 2 |
| 2. Pails within reasonable distance but some sewer extension required | 5 | - | 5 |
| 3. Pails requiring appreciable sewer extension or water supply | 4 | - | 4 |
| 4. Pails in remote areas unlikely to be sewered | 31 | 8 | 39 |
| 5. Pails in temporary or occasional use | - | - | 3 |
| Total number collected | | | 53 |

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS DURING 1972

The following table gives the number of inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

| <u>SANITARY ADMINISTRATION</u> | | <u>Primary Visits</u> | <u>Re- Visits</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|---------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Cleansing and Salvage .. .. . | .. .. . | 110 | 13 | 123 |
| Drainage and Sewerage .. .. . | .. .. . | 62 | 137 | 199 |
| Factories with Mechanical Power .. .. . | .. .. . | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| Factories (others) .. .. . | .. .. . | 1 | - | 1 |
| Infectious Diseases .. .. . | .. .. . | 7 | 32 | 39 |
| Nuisances (Miscellaneous) inc. Noise .. .. . | .. .. . | 57 | 41 | 98 |
| Public Conveniences .. .. . | .. .. . | 19 | - | 19 |
| Refuse Accommodation .. .. . | .. .. . | 276 | 92 | 368 |
| River Pollution .. .. . | .. .. . | 7 | - | 7 |
| Rodent Control .. .. . | .. .. . | 34 | 17 | 51 |
| Sanitary Accommodation .. .. . | .. .. . | 40 | 31 | 71 |
| Air Pollution .. .. . | .. .. . | 320 | 14 | 334 |
| Smoke Control Areas .. .. . | .. .. . | 904 | 60 | 964 |
| Verminous Premises .. .. . | .. .. . | 10 | 13 | 23 |
| Water Supplies (private) .. .. . | .. .. . | 7 | - | 7 |
| Water Supplies (public) .. .. . | .. .. . | 86 | 3 | 89 |
| Civic Amenities Act 1967 .. .. . | .. .. . | 49 | 27 | 76 |
| <u>HOUSING ADMINISTRATION</u> | | | | |
| Dwelling house repairs - H.A. .. .. . | .. .. . | 143 | 114 | 257 |
| Dwelling house repairs - P.H.A. .. .. . | .. .. . | 37 | 23 | 60 |
| Enquiries (Miscellaneous) .. .. . | .. .. . | 93 | 5 | 98 |
| Improvements .. .. . | .. .. . | 108 | 11 | 119 |
| Overcrowding .. .. . | .. .. . | 1 | - | 1 |
| Rent Act 1957, Qualification Certificates .. .. . | .. .. . | 12 | 5 | 17 |
| Survey .. .. . | .. .. . | 125 | 7 | 132 |
| <u>FOOD ADMINISTRATION</u> | | | | |
| Diseases of Animals Acts .. .. . | .. .. . | 1 | - | 1 |
| Food Inspection .. .. . | .. .. . | 24 | 1 | 25 |
| Meat Inspection .. .. . | .. .. . | 1655 | - | 1655 |
| Slaughterhouses .. .. . | .. .. . | 47 | 2 | 49 |
| <u>SAMPLING</u> | | | | |
| Milk - Herd .. .. . | .. .. . | 64 | - | 64 |
| - Individual .. .. . | .. .. . | 85 | - | 85 |
| Water .. .. . | .. .. . | 1 | - | 1 |
| C/forward | | 4386 | 653 | 5039 |

.....Continued

| | | Primary Visits | Re- Visits | Total |
|---|-----------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
| | B/forward | 4386 | 653 | 5039 |
| <u>Premises visited</u> | | | | |
| Pet Animals | .. .. . | 2 | - | 2 |
| Animal Boarding Establishments | .. .. . | 2 | - | 2 |
| Hairdressers | .. .. . | 3 | - | 3 |
| Offensive Trades | .. .. . | 1 | - | 1 |
| Offices (Offices, Shops and Railway Premises) | | 2 | - | 2 |
| Retail Shops | .. .. . | 13 | 3 | 16 |
| Wholesalers | .. .. . | 3 | - | 3 |
| Food Premises - Grocers | .. .. . | 31 | 16 | 47 |
| - Greengrocers | .. .. . | 10 | 2 | 12 |
| - Butchers | .. .. . | 12 | - | 12 |
| - Preserved Meat Manufacturers | | 4 | - | 4 |
| - Fried Fish Shops | .. .. . | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| - Sweet Shops | .. .. . | 1 | - | 1 |
| - Licensed Premises | .. .. . | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| - Bakers and Confectioners | .. .. . | 5 | - | 5 |
| - Restaurants and Cafes | .. .. . | 9 | 2 | 11 |
| - Ice Cream Retailers | .. .. . | 4 | - | 4 |
| - Hawkers | .. .. . | 3 | - | 3 |
| - Fishmongers | .. .. . | 1 | - | 1 |
| - Market Stalls | .. .. . | 42 | 27 | 69 |
| - Other Food Premises | .. .. . | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| <u>Smoke Observations - Others</u> | .. .. . | 9 | - | 9 |
| | | <u>4555</u> | <u>706</u> | <u>5261</u> |

In addition to the list of Public Health Inspectors' visits 138 complaints with regard to blocked drains and waste water closets, etc. have been dealt with by the Department.

WORK ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE YEAR

The housing defects and nuisances listed overleaf were discovered, remedied and dealt with by serving of notice.

DWELLING HOUSE REPAIRS AND NUISANCES RECORDED IN JOURNAL (P.H.A.)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | <u>Found</u> | <u>Abated</u> |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------------|---------------|
| Roofs | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 |
| Chimney stacks | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 2 |
| Chimney flues | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 1 |
| Eaves gutters | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 |
| Rain water pipes | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 2 |
| Walls - structure | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 1 |
| Wall pointings | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 3 |
| Outbuildings | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | - |
| Waste water closets defective | | | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 1 |
| Fresh water closets defective | | | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 1 |
| Fresh water closets insufficient | | | | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 1 |
| Drains | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 | 6 |
| Ceilings | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 1 |
| Wall plaster | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 1 |
| Windows | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 6 |
| Doors | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 | 2 |
| Staircases | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 1 |
| Offensive accumulations | | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | <u>25</u> | <u>34</u> |

NOTICES SERVED

Informal 16
Statutory Nil

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Industrial Pollution

The level of smoke pollution from industrial sources contributes little to the overall smoke pollution due to the appreciable modernisation that has taken place in industry since the Clean Air Act 1956. The majority of the coal fired is done so by mechanical means and there are only three hand fired plants. Nevertheless, despite the theoretical smokelessness and practicability of the mechanically fired coal and oil furnaces to comply with the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations 1958, constant vigilance is necessary to ensure that the furnaces are operated and maintained in a satisfactory manner. During the year the attention of a number of factory owners or engineers was called to temporary lapses.

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Total number of observations | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 |
| Complying with Regulations | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| Not complying with Regulations | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 |

Domestic Pollution

It is estimated that eighty to ninety per cent of the smoke pollution in the town now emanates from domestic sources. This smoke is discharged at a very low level and the valley formation of the town, particularly in winter when temperature inversions most commonly occur, gives rise to quite high levels of smoke pollution. This is harmful to health, dirty, uneconomic and justifies the quickest possible implementation of the smoke control programme.

At present the Council's policy is to make Smoke Control Orders on all undeveloped land where ten or more houses are to be erected which are erected with flues. Three Smoke Control Orders became operative during the year, another Order was confirmed, whilst another area was surveyed and the Order should be confirmed in the summer of 1973.

The position at the end of 1972 was as follows:-

Areas of undeveloped land

| <u>Area No.</u> | <u>Site</u> | <u>Acreage</u> | <u>No. of dwellings likely to be affected</u> | <u>Present position</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. | Balladen | 19.6 | 72 | Order operative 1/7/70 |
| 2. | Hurst Lane | 3.1 | 31 | Order operative 1/8/71 |
| 4. | Reedsholme | 16.38 | 64 | Order operative 1/4/72 |
| 5. | Greenbank | 3.25 | 13 | Order operative 1/4/72 |
| | | <u>42.33</u> | <u>180</u> | |

Areas of existing houses

| | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--|
| 3. | Balladen and Bury Road | 610.4 | 628 | Order operative 31/7/72 |
| 6. | Hall Carr and Bury Road | 265.6 | 515 | Order confirmed - operative 30/9/73 |
| 7. | Haslingden Road and Oakley | 419.0 | 757 | Area surveyed |
| | | <u>1295.0</u> | <u>1900</u> | |

The results of the air sampling apparatus and meteorological records are appended.

Three volumetric instruments measuring amount of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere are situated, one at the Department's Office in the town centre, one on the first floor of the former Hall Carr Co-operative Grocery Store, and the third at the Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School, Waterfoot.

It is pleasing to note a reduction in the smoke and sulphur dioxide levels at all three sites over the year as a whole and, more significantly, during the winter months. In fact, the Town Centre 'smoke' reading during the six winter months averaged less than 100 microgrammes per cubic metre of air for the first time, although this figure is twice as high as the ultimate goal to be arrived at according to a W.H.O. report.

The authority is a member of the South East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee for the Investigation of Atmosphere Pollution, in which there are thirty-eight constituent local authorities represented.

: : : : : : : :

MONTHLY POLLUTION AVERAGES

| MONTH | SMOKE | | | SULPHUR DIOXIDE | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| | Health Office | Hall Carr | B.R.G.S. | Health Office | Hall Carr | B.R.G.S. |
| January | 82 | 99 | 86 | 129 | 91 | 162 |
| February | 84 | 95 | 92 | 121 | 103 | 134 |
| March | 83 | 95 | 104 | 85 | 113 | 142 |
| April | 39 | 52 | 46 | 65 | 69 | 93 |
| May | 39 | 59 | 45 | 83 | 77 | 79 |
| June | 34 | 54 | 35 | 69 | 60 | 89 |
| July | 28 | 33 | 12 | 63 | 49 | 66 |
| August | 30 | 38 | 39 | 50 | 55 | 95 |
| September | 95 | 120 | 148 | 101 | 97 | 184 |
| October | 79 | 101 | 79 | 107 | 108 | 159 |
| November | 96 | 143 | 136 | 116 | 104 | 179 |
| December | 96 | 133 | - | 153 | 123 | - |
| Annual average daily pollution | 65 | 85 | 75 | 95 | 87 | 126 |

Measurements in microgrammes per cubic metre

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND POLLUTION

(Health Office Readings)

| Meteorological conditions | No. of days | Smoke | SO ₂ | SMOKE in microgrammes per cubic metre | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------|-----------------|---|---------|--------|
| | | | | Average | Highest | Lowest |
| Fog | 2 | 202 | 268 | 65 | 250 | 0 |
| Clear | 40 | 80 | 113 | | | |
| Cloudy | 76 | 70 | 108 | SULPHUR DIOXIDE in mgrms/m ³ | | |
| Rain (+.01") | 17 | 57 | 98 | | | |
| Wet (+.04") | 111 | 59 | 94 | Average | Highest | Lowest |
| | | | | 95 | 384 | 6 |

RAINFALL IN INCHES

TEMPERATURE °F.

| Total | Highest Daily | Highest Monthly | Av. Max. | Highest | Ave. Min. | Lowest |
|--------|---------------|-----------------|----------|---------|-----------|--------|
| 47.25" | 1.37" | 6.84" | 53 | 84 | 41 | 13 |

| Wind Direction | No. of days | Av. Smoke | Av. SO ₂ | Wind Velocity | Force No. | No. of days | Av. Smoke | Av. SO ₂ |
|----------------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|
| N. | 15 | 55 | 92 | Light air | 1 | 42 | 84 | 120 |
| N.E. | 17 | 50 | 77 | Light breeze | 2 | 68 | 71 | 110 |
| E. | 11 | 38 | 62 | Gentle breeze | 3 | 53 | 60 | 102 |
| S.W. | 101 | 74 | 121 | Moderate wind | 4 | 42 | 49 | 82 |
| W. | 36 | 80 | 95 | Fresh wind | 5 | 35 | 52 | 84 |
| N.W. | 47 | 70 | 102 | Strong wind | 6 | 6 | 32 | 63 |
| S.E. | 16 | 100 | 148 | Moderate gale | 7 | - | - | - |
| S. | 3 | 170 | 216 | Fresh gale | 8 | - | - | - |

DISINFESTATION

Advice and assistance is given to all occupiers of infested premises who seek our help. Treatment for householders is free if their co-operation can be secured, and the methods vary according to circumstances. The substances used also vary according to circumstances but they include pyrethrum, D.D.T., lindane and dieldrin.

Treatment by the Department's staff has been undertaken in the following cases:

| | | | <u>No. of premises</u> | <u>No. of rooms</u> |
|-----------------|---|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Cockroaches | - | Domestic | 29 | 56 |
| Fleas | - | Domestic | 3 | 7 |
| Flies | - | Domestic | 2 | 4 |
| Wasps | - | Domestic (Gardens) | 4 | - |
| Plaster Beetles | - | Domestic | 1 | 1 |
| Silver Fish | - | Domestic | 1 | 1 |

DISINFECTION

| | | | <u>No. of premises</u> | <u>No. of rooms</u> |
|----------------------------|---|----------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Tuberculosis | - | Domestic | - | - |
| Other than Tuberculosis | - | Domestic | 1 | 3 |

SCHOOLS

There are 20 schools in the Borough and the following table sets out the general standard of sanitary arrangements. The Regulations referred to are based on the School Premises Amended Regulations.

| | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Yard surfaces unsatisfactory | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| Sanitary Accommodation: | | | | | | |
| Fresh water closets | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 |
| Trough closets only | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| Refuse disposal by dustbins | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 |
| Water Supply: | | | | | | |
| Public Mains | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 |
| Private supplies | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| Washing facilities unsatisfactory according to standard prescribed by Regulation | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| Drinking facilities unsatisfactory | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |

The facilities for handling school meals were mainly satisfactory and a high standard of cleanliness was observed. Six schools prepare meals on their premises.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is only one tripe dresser in the Borough and the premises, which are satisfactory, are visited periodically.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, which brought into force a new licensing system for caravans, has two objects:

- (i) to control the location of caravan sites by seeking appropriate planning permission.
- (ii) to improve conditions on sites by requiring good standards of layout, equipment and maintenance.

This latter provision is governed by the issue of site licences by the local authority which are only issued if planning permission is obtained. Five licences have been issued to date subject to the necessary conditions.

RAG FLOCK

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951 came into operation on the 1st November 1951, and the Act repeals the Rag Flock Acts of 1911, 1928. There are no licensed premises within the Borough, but two premises are registered as users of filling materials.

RODENT CONTROL

Surface Treatment

There was a slight increase again in the number of complaints received of rats or mice being seen by members of the public although, in actual fact, the actual number of premises found to be infested was less than the previous year. Although the type of treatment varies in different cases and mice infestations are generally the more difficult to eradicate, the greatest success in treatment for the majority of cases has been with the following poisons: chlorophacinone for rats and alphachloralose for mice. The use of Warfarin is now almost restricted to use in sewers in conjunction with oatmeal, risella oil and paranitrophenol as a bait preservative.

The table over-leaf sets out the work carried out to deal with surface infestations:

| | | | | | <u>Type of Property</u> | |
|-------------------------------------|---|----|----|----|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Properties other than sewers</u> | | | | | <u>Non-</u> <u>Agricultural</u> | <u>Agricultural</u> |
| 1. | Number of properties in district | .. | .. | | 11,017 | 144 |
| 2. | a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification | .. | .. | .. | 563 | 4 |
| | b) Number infested by (i) Rats | .. | .. | | 111 | 1 |
| | (ii) Mice | .. | .. | | 114 | - |
| 3. | Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification | .. | .. | .. | - | - |
| | Number infested by (i) Rats | .. | .. | | - | - |
| | (ii) Mice | .. | .. | | - | - |

Sewer Treatment

The very low level of sewer infestation which had prevailed until 1970 again showed an increase over the rise noted in 1971. The level of infestation still remains low but should the same trend be apparent during the first treatment in 1973 a change of baiting technique seems indicated.

| | <u>Test Baiting</u> | <u>First Treatment</u> | <u>Second Treatment</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| No. of manholes in sewerage system | 2,432 | 2,432 | 2,432 |
| No. of manholes baited | 648 | 141 | 141 |
| No. of manholes showing 'takes' .. | 60 | 103 | 28 |
| No. of manholes showing nil 'takes' | 588 | 38 | 113 |

River Treatment

Comment was made last year on the Committee's decision to allocate more money to this service in order that the reservoirs of infestation emanating from the eighteen miles of river banks in the town could be treated. Supplementing the foreman, who undertakes the majority of normal treatments, two trained employees were engaged for about three months of the year on this task. Additional treatments on river banks were also carried out on a number of occasions where adjoining property reported rodent infestations in the neighbourhood. The main treatment revealed infestation of more parts of the Rivers Irwell, Limy Water and Whitewell Brook, but the degree of infestation was not as severe as that revealed some years ago when the last intensive treatment was given, but was sufficient to justify annual treatments wherever practicable.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

The above Act, which came into operation on the 1st April 1952, seeks to control the conditions under which pet animals are kept for sale. All primary inspections were carried out in conjunction with the local inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. One premise is licensed under the above Act.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

The above Act regulates the keeping of boarding establishments for animals and for purposes connected therewith. All primary inspections are carried out in conjunction with the local inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. Four applications for licences were received and granted.

: : : : : :

FACTORIES ACT 1961

| | <u>No. on Register</u> | <u>Number of Inspections</u> | <u>No. of Notices</u> |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Factories in which Sections 1, 2 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | - | - | - |
| Factories not included above to which Section 7 applies | 138 | 6 | - |
| Other premises to which Section 7 applies | 11 | - | - |
| | <hr/> 149 | <hr/> 6 | <hr/> - |

DEFECTS

| | <u>Found</u> | <u>Remedied</u> | <u>to H.M. Inspector</u> | <u>Referred by H.M. Inspector</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---|
| <u>Sanitary Conveniences</u> | | | | |
| Unsuitable or defective | 1 | - | - | 1 |

OUTWORKERS

In accordance with Section 133 (1)(c) of the Factories Act 1961 notifications on the August list were received from four factory occupiers in the Borough that nineteen outworkers were employed in classes of work specified by Order. This shows a decrease of four outworkers on the previous year. These were largely connected with the slipper industry. In two cases, where the outworkers carried on work outside the Borough, the appropriate local authorities were informed.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

| Class of premise (1) | Number of premises registered during the year (2) | Total number of registered premises at the end of the year (3) | Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4) |
|---|--|---|---|
| Offices | Nil | 51 | 2 |
| Retail shops | 4 | 121 | 13 |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses | Nil | 6 | 3 |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens | 1 | 14 | Nil |
| Fuel storage depots | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Totals | 5 | 192 | 18 |

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES - 21

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

| Class of workplace (1) | Number of persons employed (2) |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Offices | 238 |
| Retail Shops | 406 |
| Wholesale departments, warehouses | 31 |
| Catering establishments open to the public | 61 |
| Canteens | - |
| Fuel storage depots | - |
| Total | 736 |

Total Males - 319

Total Females - 417

EXEMPTIONS - Nil.

PROSECUTIONS - Nil.

INSPECTORS

Number of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the
Act 4

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in
connection with the Act Nil

No contraventions were found or remedied during 1972, but the following table, which accumulates the totals from 1965 to 1972, virtually provides a balance sheet showing the progress which has been made towards full compliance with requirements. Broadly 90% of the outstanding contraventions have been remedied, and it is known that much other work is in contractors' hands.

NATURE OF DEFECT OR CONTRAVENTION

| | | | | | | | | | | <u>Found</u> | <u>Abated</u> |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------------|---------------|
| Cleanliness | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 172 | 147 |
| Overcrowding | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 |
| Temperature | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 48 | 42 |
| Ventilation | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 | 8 |
| Lighting | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 29 | 24 |
| Sanitary Conveniences | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 259 | 229 |
| Washing Facilities | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 100 | 90 |
| Accommodation for Clothing | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 | 10 |
| Floors, Passages and Stairs | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 127 | 121 |
| First Aid, General Provisions | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 121 | 114 |
| Information for Employees | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 116 | 108 |
| Regulations for Securing Health and Safety | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 |
| Thermometers | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 125 | 120 |
| Seats for Sedentary Work | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | | | <u>1122</u> | <u>1018</u> |

Five non-fatal accidents were reported.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

The Council embody a clause in public works contracts restricting the periods when drills and other equipment should be used, and stipulating that equipment should be integrally or otherwise fitted with noise suppression devices. In general statutory undertakers, who are exempt by law from the relevant provisions of the Act, have co-operated with our request to fit silencers.

Five complaints were received and were satisfactorily dealt with during the year. They were as follows:-

| <u>Nature of Complaint</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Action</u> |
|--|---------------|--|
| Barking dogs | 2 | Informal approaches to dog owners achieved co-operation and complaints ceased. |
| Excessive noise from early morning delivery vehicles | 1 | Recurrence of complaint made last year necessitated seeking and obtaining co-operative action from the firm involved. |
| Excessive noise from club premises | 1 | Club persuaded to obtain consultant advice on attenuation of amplification, but ultimately increased noise activities stopped and no nuisance was created. |
| Excessive noise from air compressor used for manufacturing process | 1 | Compressor effectively screened off. |

There is no doubt that the subject of noise quite rightly will demand an increased amount of time being devoted to it in the future. Preventive work in connection with Noise Control Areas, consideration of noise problems in connection with planning and development will come into increasing prominence. The public in general are becoming more and more noise-conscious, although some complaints made are not easy to resolve and, in fact, some when reviewed objectively cannot be regarded as statutory nuisances.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

REFUSE STORAGE

The rate borne municipal bin scheme continued in its ninth year to work satisfactorily. The scheme provides for renewal of one bin per premise as a bin becomes defective, to cover provision of bins for new houses, and, where justifiable, not to limit renewal or supply of one bin per household. The scheme is, therefore, fully comprehensive. Both galvanised and plastic bins are supplied.

During the year the following dustbins were supplied by the Department:

493 Galvanised dustbins and 502 rubber lids
260 Plastic dustbins and 253 rubber lids

Of these the following were supplied under the scheme at a cost of slightly less than a .3p rate.

473 Galvanised bins and 474 rubber lids
233 Plastic bins and 232 rubber lids

The issue of paper sacks at holiday periods to meet temporary storage difficulties continued to function satisfactorily. About 25% of householders in the town avail themselves of this service which, in addition to facilitating the principle of a same-day collection service, reduces the usual complaints following holiday periods to very small numbers. The paper sack system was also used to meet temporary collection disturbances due to road repairs etc. Two Council estates involving some 240 houses are served by paper sacks with holders affixed to the ledge of an outward opening door enclosing a brick compartment large enough to accommodate two sacks. Eighty other houses are on the paper sack system mainly using the sack as a bin liner.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Difficulties continue in the recruitment of suitable labour, although the payment of certain bonuses when teams are depleted enables the continuance of a weekly refuse collection service.

The free service provided for the removal of bulky household refuse, including furniture, continues to be in increasing demand. This service, whilst still unfortunately not preventing indiscriminate dumping, gives no excuse for such action but obviously prevents a good deal. Reasonable amounts of garden refuse and "do-it-yourself" building work refuse is also removed free of charge.

Domestic and trade refuse is collected by three teams with a performance of 120 bins per man per day operating on a stint system. A separate collection of waste paper from shops and offices is made by a fourth vehicle which also collects refuse from outlying farms. The average length of haul to tip for the larger vehicle is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, as against $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles for the smaller vehicle.

The number of working days lost due to sickness and injury amounted to 378 or the labour of more than one man for the year. The labour turnover rate was 72%.

The type and age of the vehicles operated are listed below:

| <u>Type of Vehicle</u> | <u>Year Purchased</u> | <u>Reg. No.</u> |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------|
| S. & D. TZ Type Fore and Aft Tipper 25 cu.yard capacity and loaders cab | 1964 | HTF 522B |
| S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper 25 cu. yard capacity and loaders cab | 1968 | KTD 886F |
| S. & D. 20 cu.yard Pakamatic and loaders cab .. | 1969 | STJ 808H |
| Karrier Bantam 10 cu. yard capacity | 1972 | RHG 196K |

Continued.....

Type of Vehicle - continued

Year Purchased

Reg. No.

S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper 25 cu.yard capacity
and loaders cab

1972

MTJ 879K

A new 25 cu.yard Fore and Aft Tipper is due in 1973 to replace the old 1964 machine.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967

The above Act and relevant regulations, so far as they relate to unlawfully deposited rubbish, came into operation on the 24th August 1967.

In 1968 this authority designated Meadow Head Tip as the refuse disposal centre where people may take their refuse as required by the Act, and full publicity was given to the arrangements. This provision was considered adequate, particularly having regard to facilities which are available for the free collection of bulky discards. The tip is again open continuously but difficulties still arise due to persons not tipping in the allocated space. Occasionally industrial material is also deposited which would not otherwise be accepted, and this can cause problems as tracing offenders is difficult.

No formal action was taken during 1972 regarding unauthorised dumping, but the clearance of many sites in the Borough is a problem which will have to be faced in the future if amenities are to be improved. It is virtually impossible to find the culprits of unauthorised dumping, and the clearance of the various sites in the town will prove costly and could disorganise existing transport and labour arrangements.

The duty to remove apparently abandoned motor vehicles came into operation on the 27th January 1968 and became mandatory six months later.

The previous private arrangements made with a local car dismantling firm were successfully continued during 1972 in the administration of the new provisions.

Seventy-six visits were paid by your Inspectors under the Act, mainly in connection with the abandonment of vehicles. Five abandoned vehicles were removed during the year, three of these necessitated the use of Statutory powers.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Tipping was continued on the 9.4 acres of land which has been leased on the westerly side of the old Meadow Head tip and this provides the necessary material for covering purposes. Volumetric calculations based on the aerial survey undertaken in 1970 indicate that about ten years' tipping still exists on the present site. The first phase of land reclamation for restoration to agricultural use should be completed in 1973. It is proposed to soil and re-seed about two years later, but perimeter drainage work and stripping of the second phase of the project will be needed in 1973.

A four-wheeled drive mechanical shovel deals with refuse and covers off using innocuous material from the older tip sections.

To supplement the free collection of bulky articles and to discourage people from indiscriminate tipping, a free disposal service was offered for loads up to one ton in bulk. The number of loads tipped was as follows:

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|
| Refuse | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3032 |
| Sweepings | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 508 |
| Gully material | | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 514 |
| Various | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 832 |

SALVAGE

The weight of waste paper collected and sold for salvage was 180 tons 120cwts. which brought in an income of £1851.62 A salvage bonus is payable to the men for this work, and £310.87 was paid out in this connection.

PAIL CLOSETS

The mechanical gully emptier is hired from the Highways Department on one day per week for the emptying of fifty-three pails provided at unsewered property.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are nine ladies and gentlemen's public conveniences and eight urinals. Malicious damage continued to cause appreciable expenditure in repairs.

S E C T I O N E.

HOUSING

NEW HOUSES

Number of new houses erected during the year:

| | <u>Houses</u> | <u>Flats and Bungalows</u> |
|--|---------------|----------------------------|
| (a) By the local authority | 1 | 18 |
| (b) By other local authorities | - | - |
| (c) By other bodies or persons | 48 | - |

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES

| | |
|---|-----|
| Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) | 145 |
| Number of inspections made for the above purpose | 317 |
| Number of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable, at reasonable expense, of being rendered fit: | |
| (a) Number found during the year | 126 |
| (b) Number at the end of the year | 567 |
| Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit | 16 |

CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In Clearance Areas (Housing Act 1957)

| | <u>Houses Demolished</u> | <u>Displaced Persons</u> | <u>Families</u> |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| (1) Houses unfit for human habitation | 47 | 40 | 22 |
| (2) Houses included by reasons of bad arrangement etc. | - | | |
| (3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) | 1 | | |

| <u>Not in Clearance Areas</u> | | <u>Houses</u> <u>Demolished</u> | <u>Displaced</u> <u>Persons</u> | <u>Families</u> |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| (4) | As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) | 13 | - | - |
| (5) | Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health .. | - | - | - |
| (6) | Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under Local Acts | - | - | - |
| (7) | Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders | - | - | - |

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED (Housing Act 1957)

| | <u>Number</u> | <u>Displaced</u> <u>Persons</u> | <u>Families</u> |
|---|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| (8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), 35(1) .. | 41 | 68 | 35 |
| (9) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 | - | - | - |
| (10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 | - | - | - |

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

| | <u>By Owner</u> | <u>By Local Authority</u> |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------|
| (11) After informal action by Local Authority | 16 | - |
| (12) After formal notices under: | | |
| (a) Public Health Acts | - | - |
| (b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957 | - | - |

D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act 1957)

| | <u>No. of houses</u> | <u>No. of separate dwellings</u> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Retained for temporary accommodation under Section 48 | 19 | 19 |

E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

| | <u>No. of houses</u> | <u>No. of occupants</u> |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased during the year | - | 1 |

HOUSING ACT 1949, AND HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT 1958

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

| <u>Action during year:</u> | <u>No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected in schemes of:</u> | |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| | <u>Private bodies or individuals</u> | <u>Local Authority</u> |
| (a) By private individuals to L.A. .. | 198 | - |
| (b) Finally approved by L.A. | 142 | - |
| (c) Submitted by L.A. to Ministry .. | - | 64 |
| (d) Finally approved by Ministry .. | - | 64 |
| (e) Work completed | 94 | 50 |

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959, AND HOUSING ACTS 1961, 1964 STANDARD GRANTS

| <u>Action during year:</u> | <u>No. of Dwelling Houses affected</u> |
|---|--|
| (a) Applications submitted to L.A. for improvement to full standard | 83 |
| (b) Applications submitted to L.A. for improvement to reduced standard | - |
| (c) Applications approved by L.A. for improvement to full standard | 94 |
| (d) Applications approved by L.A. for improvement to reduced standard | - |
| (e) Work completed | 86 |

QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES - HOUSING FINANCE ACT 1972 PART III from August 1972

Improvement Cases

| | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of applications for qualification certificates received during the year | 3 |
| 2. Number of certificates of provisional approval issued during the year | 4 |
| 3. Number of qualification certificates issued during the year | 1 |
| 4. Number of applications for qualification certificates under consideration at the end of the year | Nil |

Standard Amenities already provided

| | |
|--|---|
| 5. Number of applications for qualification certificates received during the year | 6 |
|--|---|

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 6. | Number of qualification certificates issued during the year | 4 |
| 7. | Number of applications for qualification certificates under consideration at the end of the year | 4 |

GENERAL

During 1972 eleven Compulsory Purchase Orders were made involving 90 houses, whilst a further 41 houses were the subject of informal or formal Closing Orders thus achieving a sizeable reduction in the outstanding clearance programme.

Continuation of the back-to-back improvement programme resulted in 31 houses being converted or improved during the year. Forty back-to-back houses purchased by the Council for improvement remained outstanding at the end of the year.

Further improvements to the older terraced property progressed steadily and 91 houses below the 5-point standard were brought to at least this level which should be the accepted minimum nowadays.

Owner-occupation again increased and 86% of the older terraced property is now owner-occupied, with 76% of it being at least up to the 5-point standard. Of the 14% rented older terraced property only 34% is up to the 5-point standard.

A broader picture of the standard of all the town's houses was also presented in 1972 following the request of the Department of the Environment in Circular 50/72, and this briefly revealed the following information on the houses which were considered to be fit or capable of being rendered fit.

| | | <u>Private</u> | <u>Local Authority</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|----|---|----------------|------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | Up to 12-point standard | 31% | 90% | 53% |
| 2. | Capable of improvement to 12-point standard, now at least 5-point standard .. | 35% | 1% | 23% |
| 3. | Capable of improvement to 12-point standard, not improved | 27% | 6% | 19% |
| 4. | Not capable of improvement to 12-point standard, now at least 5-point standard .. | 2% | 1% | 1% |
| 5. | Not capable of improvement to 12-point standard, not improved | 5% | 2% | 4% |
| | | <u>100%</u> | <u>100%</u> | <u>100%</u> |

The following up-dated statistical review is presented to you annually and is based on progress with clearance and improvement programmes. It keeps up to date results of the 1964 postal survey which used the 5-point standard as a basis.

No. of
houses

A. Broad classification of property in the town at the end of 1972

Property of satisfactory standard (at least up to the 5-point standard)

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----------|----|-------------|
| (a) Older houses (Section B, 1b and 1c) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2505 |
| (b) Council houses (Estates only) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2723 |
| (c) Pre and post war private detached and semi-detached houses | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | (approx) | .. | 1000 |
| | | | | | | | <u>6228</u> |

Property of unsatisfactory standard for future action

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|--|--|--|-------------|
| (a) Probable for clearance (Section B, 2a and part 2c) | .. | .. | .. | | | | 329 |
| (b) Probable for improvement (Section B, 2b, part 2c and 2d) | .. | .. | | | | | <u>1360</u> |
| | | | | | | | <u>1689</u> |

Property in isolated rural areas, mainly farm cottages unlikely for action in foreseeable future

(approx) .. 200

Total Houses 8117

B. Progress in the clearance and improvement of older property at the end of 1972

1. Action completed

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|--|--|--|-------------|
| (a) Clearance programmes (160 await confirmation re-housing and/or demolition) | .. | .. | .. | | | | 1865 |
| (b) Back-to-back improvement programme (including 113 associated 'throughs') | .. | .. | .. | | | | 294 |
| (c) Older terraced properties with full standard amenities | .. | .. | | | | | <u>2211</u> |
| | | | | | | | <u>4370</u> |

2. Outstanding

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------------|
| (a) Clearance programme (1972 - 1974) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 246 |
| (b) Back-to-back improvement 1972 - 1975 (including 48 associated 'throughs') | .. | .. | .. | | | | <u>303</u> |
| | | | | | | | 549 |
| (c) Residue property for further detailed examination (probably 83 for clearance) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 194 |
| (d) Older terraced properties requiring provision of some amenities | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | <u>946</u> |
| | | | | | | | <u>1689</u> |

C. Standard and ownership of the older terraced property in the town not included in clearance or improvement programmes

| | <u>Owner-occupied</u> | <u>Rented</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| (a) <u>Up to standard</u> (at least up to 5-point standard) | 2062 (76%) | 149 (34%) | 2211 (70%) |
| (b) <u>Not up to standard</u> | | | |
| (i) With bathroom and few deficiencies (majority lacking internal W. C. only) | 274 | 46 | 320 |
| (ii) Without bathroom and other amenities | <u>385</u> | <u>241</u> | <u>626</u> |
| | <u>659</u> (24%) | <u>287</u> (66%) | <u>946</u> (30%) |
| Totals of (a) and (b) | <u>2721</u> (86%) | <u>436</u> (14%) | <u>3157</u> |

At the end of the year there were 367 applicants for Council houses, and schemes at present contemplated include 50 dwellings - mixed houses and flats.

There were no cases of overcrowding occurring in Council houses during the year.

: : : : : :

SECTION F.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

The supervision of milk production on farms is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Local authorities are still responsible for many important duties connected with milk distribution, including the sampling of milk after it leaves the farm. They also possess the powers for prevention of infection of milk, and duties in connection with water supply, sewage disposal and housing at farm and dairy premises.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 - 1965 govern the designations which may be applied to milk. Milk which is not subject to some form of heat treatment is now designated "untreated milk", whilst the treated milks embrace "sterilised, pasteurised and ultra heat treated milks".

There are 18 producer retailers of untreated milk in the Borough and 54 registered distributors of milk operating in the district under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959. The following table details the number and results of samples taken during the year.

| | | No. of | Number | <u>Results</u> | | No |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | | <u>Samples</u> | <u>Positive</u> | Number | <u>Negative</u> | <u>Results</u> |
| <u>Raw Milk - Tuberculin Tested</u> | | | | | | |
| (a) | Tuberculosis biological test | Nil | - | - | - | - |
| (b) | Brucella Abortus, Ring test | 141 | 7 | 134 | - | - |
| (c) | Brucella Abortus, Culture test | 7 | 3 | 4 | - | - |
| (d) | Brucella Abortus, Biological test | Nil | - | - | - | - |
| | | | | | | |
| | | No. of | No. satis- | No. unsatis- | No | |
| | | <u>Samples</u> | <u>factory</u> | <u>factory</u> | <u>Results</u> | |
| <u>Heat Treated Milk</u> | | | | | | |
| (a) | Phosphatase test | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| (b) | Methylene blue reduction test | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| (c) | Turbidity test | - | - | - | - | - |

BRUCELLOSIS

Special attention was given again to the sampling of milk for the presence of brucella organisms. It was found possible to achieve the bi-monthly sampling of our eighteen producer retailers and also outside producer retailers delivering milk in the Borough.

It is important to note that of the 141 milk samples submitted for examination 134 passed the preliminary screening Ring Test. This alone is a significant improvement on sampling results obtained a few years ago when a high percentage of samples were at least Ring Test positive. The 7 positive samples submitted for cultural examination revealed 3 positive results. One related to a producer retailer from

outside the Borough and this was referred to the appropriate authority for action by them. The other two positive samples were herd samples from local producer retailers, and statutory notices were served on the farmers under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 prohibiting the sale of the untreated milk. The farmers' veterinary surgeons isolated four infected cows following blood tests and these were slaughtered. The restriction notices were later revoked following two negative samples from the herds.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

There were several contacts with Veterinary Officers engaged by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food who periodically visit slaughtering facilities to assist in raising hygiene standards and in attaining uniformity of administration arranged by various authorities. The Department continued its monthly detailed inspections and reports on each slaughterhouse to supplement the day to day visits for meat inspection purposes.

The 1972 rates for meat charges were: cattle - 15p; calves - 4p; pigs - 4p; and sheep - 3p. The expenditure incurred on meat inspection by way of salaries, transport etc. is still more than the income derived from the charges despite a revision in charges.

For the first time in several years the number of animals slaughtered was less than the previous year. The number of beef cattle was similar and the fall occurred in the number of sheep and lambs slaughtered - about 1600 less. This is believed to be mainly due to a lessening demand following higher prices.

MEAT INSPECTION RECORD SUMMARY

| | Cattle excl. Cows | Cows | Calves | Pigs | Sheep and Lambs |
|--|-------------------------|-------|--------|-------|-----------------------|
| Number of animals killed | 5190 | 1554 | 27 | 1425 | 28,405 |
| Number of animals inspected | 5190 | 1554 | 27 | 1425 | 28,405 |
| <u>Tuberculosis</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Part carcass or organ condemned | Nil | Nil | Nil | 1 | Nil |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis | Nil | Nil | Nil | 0.07% | Nil |
| <u>Pyæmic Lesions</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcass condemned | Nil | Nil | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Part carcass or organ condemned | 310 | 19 | 1 | 4 | 31 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with pyæmic lesions | 5.9% | 1.2% | 7.4% | 0.35% | 0.1% |
| <u>Fascioliasis</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcass condemned | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Part carcass or organ condemned | 638 | 997 | Nil | Nil | 5,677 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with fascioliasis | 12.2% | 64.1% | Nil | Nil | 19.9% |
| <u>Cysticerci</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcass condemned | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Part carcass or organ condemned | 10 | 1 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with cysticerci | 0.19% | 0.06% | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| <u>All other diseases</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcass condemned | Nil | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Part carcass or organ condemned | 150 | 315 | 4 | 619 | 583 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with other diseases | 2.8% | 20.3% | 18.5% | 43.5% | 2.0% |

All the eleven carcasses affected with Cysticerci were submitted for refrigeration.

ANALYSIS OF REJECTIONS

| Disease and type of animal | Whole Carcass | Part Carcass | Head | Lungs | Heart | Diaphragm | Liver | Part Liver | Spleen | Stomach | Intestines | Udders | Tails | Kidneys | Uterus and Genitals |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|------------|--------|---------|------------|--------|-------|---------|---------------------|
| <u>CATTLE</u> T.B. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pyæmic Lesions | | 1 | 6 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 202 | 93 | | 4 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| Fasciol. | | | | | | | 336 | 1302 | | | | | | | |
| Other diseases | 2 | 6 | 19 | 117 | 27 | 5 | 37 | 1 | 83 | 2 | 1 | 149 | 1 | 55 | 13 |
| <u>CALVES</u> T.B. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pyæmic Lesions | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Fasciol. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other diseases | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| <u>SHEEP</u> T.B. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pyæmic Lesions | 1 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Fasciol. | | | | | | | 678 | 4486 | | | | | | | |
| Other diseases | 1 | 33 | 1 | 503 | 18 | 1 | 5 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| <u>PIGS</u> T.B. | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | |
| Pyæmic Lesions | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Fasciol. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other diseases | 2 | 2 | 4 | 490 | 169 | | 42 | 168 | 2 | 2 | 3 | | | 4 | |

WEIGHT OF MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

| <u>Disease except T.B.</u> | | <u>Tuberculosis only</u> | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <u>Weight of</u> <u>Meat lbs.</u> | <u>Weight of</u> <u>Offal lbs.</u> | <u>Weight of</u> <u>Meat lbs.</u> | <u>Weight of</u> <u>Offal lbs.</u> |
| <u>1,190</u> | <u>25,340</u> | - | <u>10</u> |

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATION OF WHOLE CARCASSES

| Disease | Cattle | Calves | Sheep | Pigs |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|-------|------|
| Pyrexia | - | - | 1 | - |
| Gangrene | - | - | - | 1 |
| Septic Metritis | 1 | - | - | - |
| Septic Pleurisy | - | - | - | 1 |
| Immaturity | - | 1 | - | - |
| Pyæmia | - | - | 1 | - |
| Septicæmia | - | - | - | 1 |
| Umbilical Pyæmia | - | 1 | - | - |
| Johne's Disease | 1 | - | - | - |

Four applications for licences to slaughter or stun cattle, sheep and pigs under the provision of the Slaughter of Animals Act 1958 were granted during the year.

Thirteen inspections were also made for the purpose of inspecting food at retailers' premises, and the following articles were rejected:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Tinned Meat | 750 lbs. | Frozen Chipped Potatoes | 23 packets |
| " Fish | 5 ozs. | " Fish | 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. |
| Fresh Vegetables | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. | " Vegetables | 15 lbs. |
| Fruit Cake | 2 lbs. | " Fruit | 10 lbs. |
| Pasteurised Whole Egg | 224 lbs. | " Puff Pastry | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. |
| Potato Crisps | 72 packets | " Vol-o-vents | 228 |
| Biscuits | 122 packets | " Arctic Rolls | 3 |
| Ice Cream | 1 gallon | | |

FOOD PREMISES

One hundred and eighty-four inspections of food premises were carried out. Informal notices were served upon the persons concerned when defects were found as set out overleaf:-

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955, FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1970

NATURE OF DEFECT OR CONTRAVENTION

| | <u>Premises</u> | <u>Found</u> | <u>Premises</u> | <u>Abated</u> |
|--|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Cleanliness of Equipment | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Food to be protected from risk of contamination | - | - | - | - |
| Personal Cleanliness | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| Wash-hand basins to be provided | 1 | 2 | - | - |
| First Aid Materials to be provided | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Accommodation for Clothing etc. | 3 | 3 | - | - |
| Facilities for washing food and equipment | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Lighting of food rooms | 1 | 2 | - | - |
| Cleanliness and repair etc. of food rooms | 4 | 9 | 1 | 1 |
| Accumulation of refuse etc. | - | - | - | - |
| Temperature at which certain foods are to be kept | - | - | - | - |
| Water supply to be provided | - | - | - | - |
| Ventilation of food rooms | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Persons handling open food to wear overclothing etc. | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Soil drainage system | 1 | <u>1</u> | - | <u>-</u> |
| | | <u>26</u> | | <u>5</u> |

The number of food premises, by type of business in the district at the end of the year was as follows:

| Type of business | No. of premises | No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 18 (Wash-hand basin) | No. of premises to which Reg.21 applies (Sinks) | No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 21 |
|--|-----------------|---|---|---|
| 1. Grocers and provision dealers | 74 | 74 | 65 | 65 |
| 2. Greengrocers and fruiterers (inc. those selling wet fish, game etc.) | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 |
| 3. Fishmongers (inc. those selling poultry, game etc.) | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 4. Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats tripe etc.) | 32 | 32 | 32 | 32 |

Continued over

| Type of business | No. of Premises | No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 18 (Wash-hand basin) | No. of premises to which Reg. 21 applies (Sinks) | No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 21 |
|---|-----------------|---|--|---|
| 5. Bakers and/or confectioners | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 |
| 6. Fried fish shops | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| 7. Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc. | 18 | 18 | 5 | 5 |
| 8. Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments | 66 | 66 | 66 | 66 |
| 9. Others | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |

ICE CREAM

There are two manufacturers of ice-cream in the Borough, both of whom use the hot-mix method. In only one instance is the production carried out on a large scale. The other is a small trader and shopkeeper manufacturing for his own requirements. The details of registration at the end of the year were as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------------------|------------|
| 1. Manufacturing retailers | .. | 2 Hot mix | 0 Cold mix |
| 2. Retailers only | .. .. | <u>94</u> " | 0 " |
| | | <u>96 Hot Mix</u> | |

Generally speaking inspection of the ice-cream premises revealed that the relevant Acts and Regulations, together with the adopted Lancashire County Council's Codes of Practice, were being satisfactorily observed.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION

The Lancashire County Council undertake the sampling of food for quality, assistance being rendered by this Department as required. Doctor C.H.T.Wade, County Medical Officer of Health, has kindly furnished the information overleaf:

A total of 57 samples was obtained comprising 31 milks and 26 others as follows:

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1 Portion of Fried Fish | 2 Corned Beef, canned |
| 1 Mango Chutney | 1 Treacle Sponge Pudding |
| 1 Fruit Sauce | 1 Beef Suet |
| 1 Horseradish Cream | 1 Mincemeat |
| 1 Short Pastry Mix | 1 Ground Almonds |
| 1 Ready made Stuffing with Sausage meat, canned | 1 Cranberry Sauce, canned |
| 1 Cheese Spread and Crab | 1 Cut Mixed Peel |
| 1 Cheese Spread | 1 Glace Cherries |
| 1 Crab | 1 Marzipan |
| 1 Salmon and Shrimp Paste | 1 Redcurrant Jelly |
| 1 Liver and Bacon Spread | 1 Strawberry Milk Shake Syrup |
| 1 Ice Cream | 1 Diazepam Tablets BP. |
| | 1 Meat Pudding |

Below are details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:

| <u>Sample</u> | <u>Result of Analysis</u> | <u>Action Taken</u> |
|---------------|---|--|
| Informal Milk | Freezing Point indicated 0.5% extraneous water | Dairy cautioned. |
| Meat Pudding | Contained a piece of hide with attached cow hair weighing in all 0.14 gm. | Complainant informed. Manufacturer cautioned. |

Consumer Complaints

Recent national surveys which have been carried out reveal that 90% of all food prosecutions are now for the presence of foreign material and mould, whereas the remainder relating to adulteration are mainly compositional defects. The prosecutions were in the following proportions, 55% foreign matter: 35% mould. This reveals interesting trends as, years ago, the accent was on adulteration with milk the prime culprit. The low adulteration of milk nowadays reflects better control and a high degree of responsibility in the dairying industry.

Last year we had twelve complaints from members of the public and all such complaints received the fullest possible investigation, although it was not necessary to institute any legal proceedings. The occurrences are deplored of course but, nevertheless, we welcome the complaints as, even if a prosecution by ourselves or the County Council does not take place, the general investigation institutes a thorough examination of various stages of food distribution and production.

Food Poisoning

Only one notification was received concerning a person affected with salmonella food poisoning. The organism isolated from faeces was Salmonella Java and occurred in an immigrant believed to be a chronic carrier.

S E C T I O N G.

MISCELLANEOUS

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT

Functions with regard to the above Act, which are administered by the Health Committee, were transferred in 1971 from the Police to the Public Health Inspectors. No action of significance was taken during the year.

There are three licensed swill boiling plants.

: : : : : :

MORTUARY

During 1972 ninety bodies were dealt with by the Police at the public mortuary. The mortuary also serves the Borough of Bacup.

: : : : : :

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